

Manzanola Bridge (Clifton Bridge)
State Highway 207 over Arkansas River
Manzanola vicinity
Crowley County
Colorado

HAER No. CO-20

HAER
COLO,
13-MANZ.V,
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Engineering Record
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

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HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

Manzanola Bridge (Clifton Bridge)

HAER No. CO-20

Location: State Highway 207 over Arkansas River
1.1 miles north of Manzanola
Crowley County, Colorado

Date of Construction: 1911; moved 1950

Builder: Patterson-Burghardt Bridge Company

Original Use: Roadway bridge

Present Use: Highway bridge

Present Owner: Colorado Department of Highways
4201 East Arkansas Avenue
Denver, Colorado

Significance: The Manzanola (Clifton) Bridge has functioned as a locally important crossing over the two greatest rivers in the State of Colorado: the Colorado and the Arkansas. It is one of the earliest rigid-connected vehicular trusses in Colorado and one of seven riveted Pennsylvania through trusses left in public use in the State. The most distinguishing feature about this bridge is its length; with a simple supported span of 300'. The Manzanola Bridge is the longest span roadway truss in Colorado.

Transmitted by Jean P. Yearby, HAER, 1985, from information compiled by Clayton Fraser and Carl Hallberg, Fraserdesign, Loveland, Colorado, December 1, 1983

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

In early 1911, the Mesa County Board of Commissioners considered construction of two bridges across the Grand (Colorado) River--on Main Street in Grand Junction and in Clifton, a small community east of Grand Junction. Lacking funds for both, despite a special levy approved in 1909, the Board delayed the Grand Junction bridge and advertised for proposals for the Clifton Bridge in July 1911. Most of Colorado's principal bridge contractors were among the eleven responding companies, and the construction contract was awarded to the Patterson-Burghardt Bridge Company for \$12,990. This long-span Pennsylvania through truss was completed later that year. In 1950, it was moved to its present location over the Arkansas River as a replacement for a three-span pinned truss built in 1908. At that time, its portal bracing was replaced with exterior braces and the decking paved. Otherwise structurally intact, it is now scheduled for removal.

ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

The Manzanola Bridge is a rigid-connected, eighteen-panel steel Pennsylvania through truss and has a :

Span number:	1
Span length:	300'0"
Overall length:	440'0"
Overall height:	39'0"
Clearance height:	15'5"
Roadway width:	19'4"
End/top chord:	2 channels with cover plate and lacing
Bottom chord:	2 channels with batten plates
Vertical:	2 channels with lacing
Diagonal:	2 channels with batten plates
Floor Decking:	Asphalt over timber decking with timber stringers
Substructure:	Solid concrete timber decking with timber stringers

REFERENCES

Structure Inventory and Appraisal: L-21-BD. Colorado Department of Highways,
Denver, Colorado

Mesa County Commissioners' Minutes: November 12, 1909 (Book 4, page 273),
July 3, 1911 (Book 5, page 6), July 11,, 1911 (Book 5, page 8),
July 25, 1911 (Book 5, page 19), July 26, 1911 (Book 5, page 20),
August 12, 1911 (Book 5, page 26), January 6, 1912 (Book 5, page 63).
Mesa County Courthouse, Grand Junction, Colorado.

Otero County Commissioners' Minutes: February 7, 1950 (Book 10, page 207),
December 7, 1950 (Book 10, page 247). Otero County Courthouse, La Junta,
Colorado.

Original drawings and specifications for original 1908 Manzanola Bridge
(Predecessor to this bridge, it was a three-span pin-connected Pratt
through truss.) Drawn by Bert Beymer, County Surveyor.
Dated December 20, 1907. Located at Otero County Clerk and Recorder's
Vault, La Junta, Colorado.

Field inspection by Clayton Fraser and Carl Hallberg, August 18, 1983.